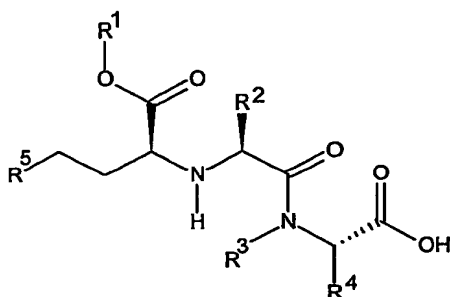


CLAIMS

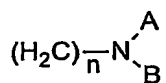
1. A pharmaceutical formulation comprising:

a. 0.5 – 50 wt% of a compound of formula I;



I

wherein R¹ is hydrogen or alkyl having one to five carbon atoms; R² is hydrogen or C₁-C₄ alkyl or the group



in which A and B independently denote hydrogen or C₁-C₄ alkyl and n is 1-4; R³ and R⁴ together with the atoms they are connected to form a heterocyclic, mono-, di-, or tricyclic ring system which is optionally substituted with C₁-C₄ alkoxy; R⁵ is methyl or phenyl; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof;

b. 5 – 90 wt% of an alkali or alkaline earth metal carbonate;

c. 5 – 90 wt% of an insoluble alkaline-earth metal salt of hydrogen phosphate;

with the proviso that the formulation does not contain a substantial amount of a saccharide compound.

2. The formulation of claim 1, wherein the alkali or alkaline-earth metal carbonate is selected from magnesium carbonate, sodium hydrogen carbonate and sodium carbonate.

3. The formulation of claim 1, wherein the amount of the alkaline earth metal carbonate is at least the equivalent of the amount of the active compound of formula I.

4. The formulation of claim 1, wherein the compound of formula I is selected from the group containing enalapril, delapril, lisinopril, moexipril, perindopril, quinapril, ramipril,trandolapril, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.
5. The formulation of claim 1 wherein the formulation comprises in the range of about 1 – 15 wt% of the compound of formula 1.
6. The formulation of claim 1 wherein the formulation comprises in the range of about 25 – 75 wt% of the alkali or alkaline earth metal carbonate.
7. The formulation of claim 6 wherein the formulation comprises in the range of about 30 – 50 wt% of the alkali or alkaline earth metal carbonate.
8. The formulation of claim 1 wherein the formulation comprises in the range of about 15 – 75 wt% of the salt of an insoluble alkaline earth metal hydrogen phosphate.
9. The formulation of claim 1 wherein the formulation comprises in the range of about 25 – 50 wt% of the salt of an insoluble alkaline earth metal hydrogen phosphate.
10. The formulation of any of the preceding claims wherein the compound of formula I is quinapril or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
11. The formulation of claim 1 further comprising 0.5 – 50 wt% of a pharmaceutically active compound selected from the group containing diuretics including hydrochlorothiazide; antitussives including dextromethorphan, dextromethorphan hydrobromide, noscapine, carbetapentane citrate, and chlophedianol hydrochloride; antihistamines including chlopheniramine maleate, phenindamine tartrate, pyrillamine maleate, doxylamine succinate, and phenyltoloxamine citrate; decongestants including phenylephedrine hydrochloride, phenylpropanolamine hydrochloride, pseudoephedrine hydrochloride, ephedrine; and alkaloids such as codeine phosphate, codeine sulfate, and morphine.